

## State website compares campaign funding

BY STEPHANIE A. WILKEN - SUN STAFF WRITER 2010-07-06 20:08:12

Ever wonder how much money Arizona candidates are raising?

An updated website from the Arizona Secretary of State's Office shows how much candidates raise and spend as well as political action committees, ballot committees and other political organizations.

The website also allows for a side-by-side comparison of candidates by "race, political party and election cycle," according to a release from the Secretary of State's Office.

"Transparency and disclosure are my top priorities when it comes to documenting spending and fundraising by candidates and other political groups," said Arizona Secretary of State Ken Bennett. "This website is one-stop shopping for anyone wanting to follow the money with regard to elections in Arizona."

The online database also tracks the independent expenditures of corporations, limited liability corporations (LLCs) and unions that choose to advocate for and against candidates, according to the release.

"A new law spearheaded earlier this year by Secretary Bennett ensures next-day reporting anytime a corporation, union or LLC spends more than \$5,000 on an independent expenditure in a statewide race, \$2,500 for a legislative race, or \$1,000 for a local race," according to the release.

"Campaign spending and fundraising is one more slice of information that voters need to have available in order to make an informed decision about candidates and ballot committees," Bennett said.

The ability of these groups to spend from their general treasury in directly advocating for and against candidates was made legal earlier this year by a U.S. Supreme Court decision.

"This website is part of a larger effort by this office to make as much public information as possible accessible through our website at www.azos.gov."

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## Candidates for State Senate, District 24

Amanda Aguirre (incumbent), Democrat

INCOME: \$1,125

EXPENSES: \$0

Jack Kretzer, Libertarian

INCOME: \$409

EXPENSES: \$5

Don Shooter, Republican

INCOME: \$0

EXPENSES: \$0

## Candidates for State House, District 24

Russ Jones (incumbent), Republican

INCOME: \$5,000

EXPENSES: \$938

Lynne Pancrazi (incumbent), Democrat

INCOME: \$4,410

EXPENSES: \$86

John Weil, Democrat

INCOME: \$2,153

EXPENSES: \$126

Local candidate income and expenses as June 1, which is the most recent filing requirement by the secretary of state.

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